17. (AMENDED) A method for transmitting one or more packets of data comprising the steps of:

(A) transmitting and/or receiving [said] a frame comprising one or more packets, each comprising one or more labels and a payload; and

(B) controlling switching of said one or more packets of said frame in response to one or more labels.

Please add the following new claims without prejudice:

19. (NEW) The packet according to claim 1, wherein said packet comprises a SONET frame.

20. (NEW) The packet according to claim 19, wherein said frame comprises a plurality of packets.
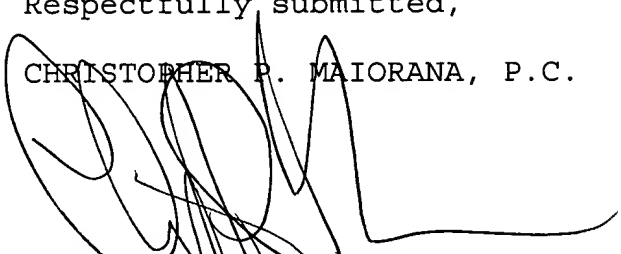
REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative should it be deemed beneficial to further advance prosecution of the application.

If any additional fees are due, please charge our office Account No. 50-0541.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTOPHER P. MAIORANA, P.C.

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Dated: _October 27, 2000_____

Docket No.: 0325.00345